

IN THE CLAIMS

1. – 7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A combustor for a gas turbine engine, said combustor comprising:

a spectacle plate;~~and;~~

a plurality of swirlers attached to said spectacle plate;~~assembling said combustor comprising;~~ and

~~coupling an assembly fixture~~ coupled to at least one said ~~swirler;~~ swirler, wherein

~~removably coupling each~~ said respective assembly fixture is removably coupled to the said spectacle plate ~~to maintain an alignment of such that~~ each said respective swirler is aligned with respect to said spectacle plate;~~and~~

~~uncoupling each respective assembly from said spectacle plate after each said swirler is attached to said spectacle plate.~~

9. (currently amended) A combustor in accordance with Claim 8 further comprising a plurality of deflector plates comprising an opening extending therethrough, ~~assembling said combustor further comprising attached~~ wherein said plurality of deflector plates are each attached to said spectacle plate such that wherein each said deflector plate opening is substantially concentrically aligned with each respective said swirler.

10. (original) A combustor in accordance with Claim 9 wherein each said swirler is welded to said spectacle plate-prior to uncoupling each respective assembly fixture.

11. (currently amended) A combustor in accordance with Claim 9 wherein ~~assembling~~ said combustor ~~further comprises~~ plurality of deflector plates further comprise:

~~positioning~~ a first ~~of said deflector plates~~ plate positioned against said spectacle plate;

~~positioning~~ a second ~~of said deflector plates~~ plate positioned against said spectacle plate and circumferentially adjacent said first deflector plate; and

~~removably coupling~~ an alignment fixture removably coupled between said first and second deflector plates to maintain a position of said first and second deflector plates with respect to said spectacle plate.

12. (currently amended) A combustor in accordance with Claim 11 wherein each said deflector plate is brazed to said spectacle plate, ~~assembling said combustor further comprising~~ ~~removing each respective said~~ alignment fixture is removed after said first and second deflector plates are ~~secured~~ brazed to said spectacle plate.

13. – 19. (canceled)